

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 17-20 remain pending in the application. Claim 16 has been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the pending application in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification because it contained more than 150 words. Applicants have amended the specification to be within 150 words, and request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 12-15 and 17 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 7,323,883. Applicants are filing a terminal disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent No. 7,323,883, and accordingly, request that the Examiner withdraw the double patenting rejection and allow these claims.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 4, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 18-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Since a terminal disclaimer is being filed to overcome the double patenting rejection, Applicants submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance, and submit that claims 4, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 18-20 are also in condition for allowance, in view of their dependency from claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and believed to be appropriate. Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present invention in condition for allowance and believe that they have done so.

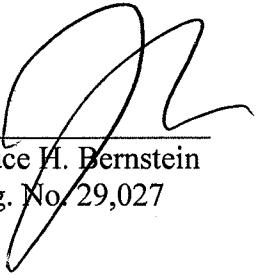
Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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